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in the presence of an acid source, for example acetic acid, in a halogenated hydrocarbon
e.g. dichloromethane or chloroform at a temperature from ambient temperature to 60°C.

Please replace paragraph [0167] starting on Page 59 with the following:

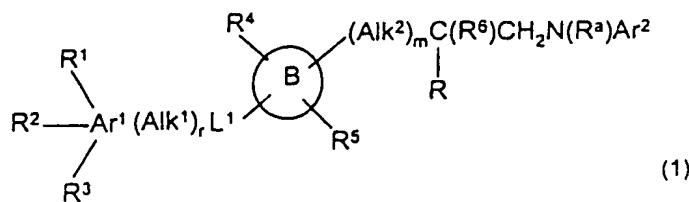
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[0167] In a further example compounds may be obtained by sulphonylation of a compound containing an -OH group by reaction with one of the above alkylating agents but in which X² is replaced by a -S(O)Hal or -SO₂Hal group, in which Hal is a halogen atom such as chlorine atom, in the presence of a base, for example an inorganic base such as sodium hydride in a solvent such as an amide, e.g. a substituted amide such as dimethylformamide at for example ambient temperature.

In the Claims

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Please amend Claims 3 and 4 as follows:

3. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 2 wherein R¹ and R² are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, or R¹ and R², together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, are joined to form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring provided that said substituted alkyl, substituted alkenyl and substituted cycloalkyl do not carry an aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl group.

4. (Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein

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cont.

Ar¹ is an aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ which may be the same or different is each an atom or group -L²(Alk³)_tL³(R⁷)_u in which L² and L³ which may be the same or different is each a covalent bond or a linker atom or group, t is zero or the integer 1, u is an integer 1, 2 or 3, Alk³ is an aliphatic or heteroaliphatic chain and R⁷ is a hydrogen or halogen atom or a group selected from alkyl, -OR⁸, where R⁸ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group, -SR⁸, -NR⁸R⁹, where R⁹ is as just defined for R⁸ and may be the same or different, -NO₂, -CN, -CO₂R⁸, -SO₃H, -SOR⁸, -SO₂R⁸, -OCO₂R⁸, -CONR⁸R⁹, -OCONR⁸R⁹, -CSNR⁸R⁹, -COR⁸, -OCOR⁸, -N(R⁸)COR⁹, -N(R⁸)CSR⁹, -SO₂N(R⁸)(R⁹), -N(R⁸)SO₂R⁹, -N(R⁸)CON(R⁹)(R¹⁰), where R¹⁰ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group, -N(R⁸)CSN(R⁹)(R¹⁰) or -N(R⁸)SO₂N(R⁹)(R¹⁰);

Alk¹ is an optionally substituted aliphatic or heteroaliphatic chain;

L¹ is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group;

Alk² is a straight or branched alkylene chain;

m is zero or an integer 1;

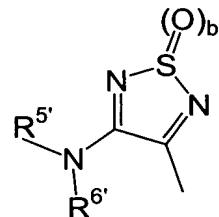
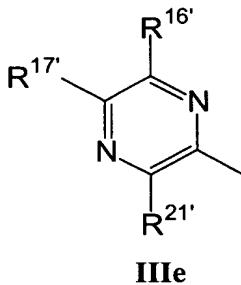
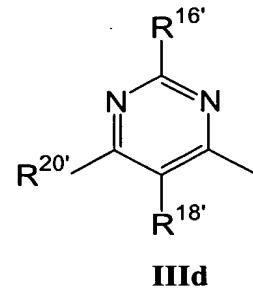
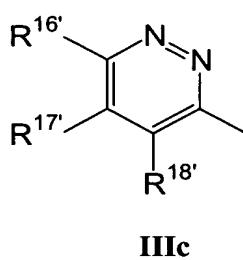
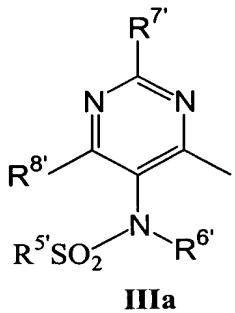
R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

r is zero or the integer 1;

R is a carboxylic acid (-CO₂H) or a derivative thereof;

R^a is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

Ar² is selected from the group consisting of moieties of formula IIIa, IIIc, IIId, IIIe and IIIf:



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cont.

where R^{5'} is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, aryl, substituted aryl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, substituted cycloalkenyl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, heteroaryl and substituted heteroaryl;

R^{6'} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, substituted cycloalkenyl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, and -SO₂R^{10'} where R^{10'} is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, substituted cycloalkenyl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl;

R^{7'} and R^{8'} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic and halogen;

R^{16'} and R^{17'} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, amino, substituted amino, cycloalkyl,